

U.S. Pat. App. Ser. No. 10/633,734
Amendment Dated April 25, 2005
Response to Office Action Mailed on January 25, 2005

Remarks

The present amendment responds to the Official Action mailed on January 25, 2005. In the Official Action, claims 9-14 and 18-20 were withdrawn from consideration, claims 1-3, 5, 8, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,539,226 ("Paek"), and claims 4, 6, 7, 16, and 17 were objected to, as depending from rejected base claims.

Accordingly, in the present amendment, claims 1-3, 5, 8-15, and 18-20 have been canceled, claims 4, 6, 7, 16, and 17 have been rewritten in independent form, and new claims 21-24 have been added.

Claims 4, 6, 7, 16, 17, and 21-24 are pending.

Each of the above issues is discussed in turn.

Withdrawal and Cancellation of Claims 9-14 and 18-20

Claims 9-14 and 18-20 have been withdrawn from consideration, pursuant to a restriction requirement. In order to expedite the allowance of the present application, these claims have been canceled herein. However, Applicant reserves the right to pursue these claims in a continuing application.

Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 8, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-3, 5, 8 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Paek. These claims have been cancelled in order to expedite the allowance of the present application. However, the cancellation of these claims is not an admission as to whether these claims are allowable over the cited art, and Applicant reserves the right to pursue these claims in a continuing application.

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Allowability of Claims 4, 6, 7, 16, and 17

The Examiner has indicated that claims 4, 6, 7, 16, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, the following amendments have been made:

Claim 4 has been rewritten in independent form, incorporating all of the limitations of claims 1 and 3, from which claim 4 depends.

Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form, incorporating all of the limitations of claims 1 and 5, from which claim 6 depends.

Claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form, incorporating all of the limitations of claim 1, from which claim 7 depends.

Claim 16 has been rewritten in independent form, incorporating all of the limitations of claim 15, from which claim 16 depends.

Claim 17 has been rewritten in independent form, incorporating all of the limitations of claim 15, from which claim 17 depends.

Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter has been added.

Accordingly, it is respectfully asserted that claims 4, 6, 7, 16, and 17 are allowable.

New Claims 21-24

New claim 21 depends from claim 4, incorporating all of the limitations thereof and adding thereto the limitations originally set forth in canceled claim 2. It is therefore asserted that new claim 21 is allowable based upon the allowability of claim 4, and further on the basis of the added limitations.

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New claim 22 depends from claim 4, incorporating all of the limitations thereof and adding thereto the limitations originally set forth in canceled claim 8. It is therefore asserted that new claim 22 is allowable based upon the allowability of claim 4, and further on the basis of the added limitations.

New claim 23 depends from claim 6, incorporating all of the limitations thereof and adding thereto the limitations originally set forth in canceled claim 2. It is therefore asserted that new claim 23 is allowable based upon the allowability of claim 6, and further on the basis of the added limitations.

New claim 24 depends from claim 6, incorporating all of the limitations thereof and adding thereto the limitations originally set forth in canceled claim 8. It is therefore asserted that new claims 24 is allowable based upon the allowability of claim 6, and further on the basis of the added limitations.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully asserted that new claims 21-24 are allowable.

Conclusion

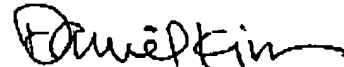
All of the presently pending claims, as amended, appearing to define over the applied reference, withdrawal of the present rejection and prompt allowance of the application are requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if any issues remain after consideration of this amendment.

It is noted that, after the present amendment to the claims, there are now 9 total claims, including 5 independent claims: 4, 6, 7, 16, and 17. As originally filed, the application had 4 independent claims. Thus, a fee is due for the presentation of one additional independent claim.

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A fee transmittal is enclosed herewith, authorizing the Commissioner to charge this fee to
Deposit Account No. 50-2074.

Respectfully submitted,



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